



ServeMontana Symposium Session Descriptions

Keynote- Steve Culbertson

In the service world, we do nothing alone. From youth-adult partnerships to multi-sector community partnerships, working together is how we solve problems through service. We know that high-quality service programs benefit both the community and those who serve. So, how do we convince everyone else that service is important, and that partnerships among individuals of all ages and organizations of all kinds are necessary for success? In his 17 years as President & CEO of YSA, Steve Culbertson has helped focus the service field on engaging youth in solving the most pressing issues facing their communities and the world. In this session, Steve will share his lessons learned, discuss current trends, and present his vision for the future of the service field. He'll also share his four major reasons why service is so critical – arguments that he uses with corporate CEOs, government officials, youth, and nonprofit leaders worldwide.

Legislative Rules- Theresa M. Keaveny

Educate or lobby? Speaking up or speaking out? Explore the rules regarding the legislative process. Learn how to approach policymakers and gain support for your program while saying in compliance with 501C and 501C3 regulations.

Veterans and Military Families- Carol Josephson, LCSW/LAC

How do we best serve those who served us? Learn to understand and address the needs of our veterans and their military families. This session will cover how to best work with veterans' populations, language to use, and the resources available from the National Guard.

Measuring Performance and Demonstrating Impact- Thale Dillon

With increased emphasis on evaluation and measurable results in today's world of limited funding, it's important to know how to "count what counts". This session will give an overview of data and data use, as well as tips on how to use data to effectively frame and communicate your message.

Building Tribal Relations- Leonard Smith and Taffy Lafferty

Involving Tribal Nations is key to serving the variety of needs in Montana's populations. Find out how to build relationships and develop new partnerships.

Best Practices for Remote Facilitation- Julie Middleton and Nicole Rush, facilitated by Crissie McMullan

Using technology to hold remote meeting and trainings is necessary to getting the job done in our vast state. Join this interactive session to learn tools to use and techniques to implement for successful conference calls, webinars, and video conferences. Be prepared to share the best practices from your organization!

Developing Leaders- Steve Culbertson and Mike Minks

If the best way to learn is by doing, then the best way to learn how to lead is by leading. Service programs provide the perfect opportunity for volunteers to develop and demonstrate leadership skills as they create inclusive, thriving projects that bring out the best in others. This session will explore lessons in leadership and how service programs can provide leadership development by providing volunteers opportunities to practice and hone their leadership skills.

Grant Writing- David Young

How do you search for funding sources, understand the grant writing process, follow detailed guidelines and do your best to get the attention of reviewers while describing your project with limited number of pages? During this interactive session, attendees will be provided an overview of the grant writing process, learn about the basic components of a grant application, attributes of successful grant writers, how to get started, what to look for in grant announcements, hallmarks of successful proposals and common reasons for unfunded proposals.

Managing Volunteers in Times of Disaster- Daniel Nyquist, Mario Colucci, and Pat McKelvey

Hear from those who were part of recent recovery efforts for Hurricane Sandy. Gain best practices and tips for both being a volunteer and managing volunteers when disaster strikes.

Using Inclusive Language and Building Inclusive Programs- NCBI

This experiential session will help participants become leaders in building programs where everyone feels safe, valued and respected. Participants will gain practical tools to ending individual and institutional prejudice by deepening self-awareness, increasing understanding of difference, and developing ally skills. NCBI trainers set a hopeful and positive tone that builds community among participants, showcasing the same principles needed to build inclusive programs within participants' own organizations.

Be Red Cross Ready- Kevin Murszewski, Adam Powers, and John Pavao

Are you ready? Emergencies can happen at a moment's notice. Mobility problems and hearing, learning, or seeing disabilities can add complication. It is important to plan ahead so you are

better prepared for any urgent situation. Learn about disaster preparedness and resources for vulnerable populations from the experts.

Developing Meaningful Service Projects- Mike Minks

Come plan a high-impact service project for Global Youth Service Day (April 26-28, 2013) or any day of the year! We'll start by identifying the outcomes you want to achieve, and work backwards from there. Develop a theory of change for your project, plan a combination of Awareness, Service, Advocacy, and Philanthropy (ASAP) change strategies, and complete planning activities from YSA's new YOUTH Changing the World Toolkit. Using a train-the-trainer format, this session will prepare you to replicate these planning activities with your own program participants.

Service Learning for All Programs- Heather Margolis

Service Learning is a service strategy that engages citizens of all ages in meaningful service enriching learning and strengthening communities. Montana Education Partnership will provide examples from across the state and strategies for how educators and nonprofits can use service-learning to engage community voice, cultivate community partnerships, build consensus, develop and implement an action plan, measure impact and analyze effectiveness, and tell the impact story, all while reflecting on each step of the process. Tool kits and grant resources will be provided.